

PEACE NEWS

No. 428 August 25, 1944 2d.

Moves to stop peace meetings

A DEMONSTRATION which the London Negotiated Peace Committee of the Peace Pledge Union proposed to hold in Trafalgar Square on Sunday, Sept. 3, has been prohibited by the Home Secretary under paragraph (2) of Defence Regulation 39E.

In Glasgow the police have twice warned speakers for the United Peace Campaign against speaking at their regular open-air meetings. The speakers continued despite the warning—the full story appears on page 4.

The reason given by Mr. Morrison for the banning of the projected Trafalgar Square demonstration is that it "would be likely to cause serious public disorder."

The national executive of the PPU takes a serious view of the Home Secretary's action and has decided to ask Mr. Morrison to receive a deputation to discuss the issues involved.

Meanwhile, arrangements are being made to hold a meeting in Hyde Park, instead of Trafalgar Square, at 3 p.m. on Sept. 3.

The demonstration was planned as one of the activities of the national Negotiated Peace Week which begins on Sunday. Further information about Negotiated Peace Week is given by Harry Hilditch, organizing secretary of the Negotiated Peace Campaign, on page 3.

Posters have been printed to tell the public of the ban.

Volunteers are wanted to display some of these posters outside Hyde Park on the day of the demonstration. Offers of help should be made to the PPU London Area Office, 8 Endsleigh Gardens, W.C.1. (Phone: Euston 4637.)

MINORITY VIEW ON THE AIR — IN U.S.A.

"America's foreign policy: A minority view" was the title of a series of six broadcasts given from a local Washington station (WINX) by Frederick J. Libby, executive secretary of the American National Council for the Prevention of War, during March and April.

Friends of the council contributed to pay for the time. Recordings of the talks have been made.

The broadcasts were on the following topics: 1. What will our victory bring Europe? 2. The Atlantic Charter seems to be vanishing; 3. Imperialism will bring no peace in Asia; 4. Peace through power is only an armed truce; 5. Rich Uncle have no friends; 6. Can peace be salvaged?

"DISGRACE TO 20th CENTURY"

From a letter to his wife found on the body of a dead young German soldier on a battlefield in France, quoted in the New York Times, Jul. 15:

"We all wonder how we will ever get out of this hell. We begin to doubt in God. What must we human beings suffer? . . .

"It is no longer a decent war, it is wholesale murder and butchering of men, a disgrace to the twentieth century."

"INEVITABLE WAR" ONCE MORE?

Dangers in the Allies' policy

WHATEVER the actual military situation by the time these words appear, the desperation with which German soldiers have continued to fight on in hopeless situations in some parts of the battlefield is one of the significant facts to emerge from recent swift developments.

Its significance is immediately obvious in the military sphere, for it clearly affects the chances of the German High Command being able to realize its hopes of gaining time to ensure that a battle for Germany follows the Battle of France.

But indirectly the fierceness of the soldiers' resistance may be, in part, a reflection of the Allied failure to offer the Germans any prospect but one of utter despair.

"We have achieved the military conditions of 1918 but not the political ones," said a high staff officer at Gen. Montgomery's HQ (Aug. 18). This time there are no Fourteen Points to appeal to moderate opinion in Germany. So the slaughter goes on.

"Inevitable war"

THE Observer (Aug. 20), dissatisfied with this state of affairs, points out that the duration of the war "might be much reduced and many lives and much suffering saved" if the Allies launched "a political offensive, that is to say, a clear and detached statement of our ideals and purposes."

But that would not be enough. Last time, the Fourteen Points themselves were betrayed; this time much that has happened since the signing of the Atlantic Charter in 1941 is ominous:

"Since that time" (1941), "Russian diplomacy, clumsily mismanaging the Polish issue, has introduced the fatal principle of territorial compensation. Since that time, the Nazis have by their abominable massacres and uprootings created precedents which can now be used against them. Defeated themselves, they may yet leave behind victory for their ideas. Yet the kind of peace proposed in 1941 was wiser and saner than the proposals made in 1944. It was a peace that carried within it the promise of further peace, whereas, of the settlement that is being proposed today, this unhappy prophecy must with all solemnity, be made. Inevitable war is being built into its very foundations." (The Economist, Aug. 12—my emphasis.)

The Atlantic Charter is now less than window-dressing, but the "clear and detached statement of our ideals and purposes" for which The Observer calls is unnecessary: they can be seen all too clearly.

Drew Pearson, the American commentator, says that Americans returning from Cairo say they suspect Mr. Churchill of "thumbing his nose at the Atlantic Charter." (Reynolds News, Aug. 20.)

Short of a real change of heart in Britain—of which there is no sign—leading to a corresponding political convulsion that effects changes in our leadership and policy, any further statements of "ideals and purposes" will be equally suspect.

The new League

WHILE the war thus continues as a titanic contest of sheer material power, and enters what may well be a phase of increasing savagery, the signs multiply that the "peace" will, morally, be little better.

At Dumbarton Oaks, near Washington, representatives of the Big Four are meeting to plan a new international set-up. From the spate of reports it appears certain that the Big Four themselves will have the chief influence and responsibility in whatever organization eventually succeeds the League of Nations.

This at least has the merit of being a realistic proposal, corresponding with the facts of the power-situation. And, despite Mr. Cordell Hull's repudiation of Mr. Dewey's accusation that the great Powers intended to coerce the rest of the world, these facts will shape the final structure. A recrudescence of the hypocritical pretences of the period between the wars would even be worse.

A Russian proposal for an international air force (with safeguards against its use against any member of the Four!) is one of the novelties on the conference agenda. How it will fare in discussion remains to be seen. Russia withdrew from the League when she found it did not mean business. The fact that she is not yet at war with Japan will strengthen her bargaining position this time—quite apart from her accession of military strength in the last decade.

In the last resort world peace will clearly depend upon whether the U.S., Britain, and USSR hold the great ends of life in common. It might help if they could be taught by some of the smaller Powers, who are being left out of the discussions at this stage, what the great ends of life really are.

Germany's future

ALTHOUGH, for reasons of domestic politics, President Roosevelt is reported to be desirous of keeping the new international organization separate from the formal peace treaties (Evening Standard, Aug. 19), the problem of future security is not so easily divisible. The treatment of Germany is of crucial importance.

The Daily Express (Aug. 17) gave what purported to be an outline of proposals concerning complete military occupation, disarmament, and supervision of industry. The report also said that Germany would not be broken up into separate States, and that there would be no general reparations.

The Allies, however, must prove not their power to repress but their capacity to create a Europe in which a Hitler would find no support.

"It is in the power of the United Nations greatly to influence the future of Germany by determining the environment in which she lives. . . .

"Hitlerism grew slowly but steadily in the political atmosphere of the 1920s. The great

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

Commentary

G. B. S. puts the case against revenge

Should Germany be "broken for ever"? Five questions relating to this controversial theme were answered by George Bernard Shaw in the Sunday Pictorial, Aug. 13. The following are points from his replies:

WE cannot break the power of sixty million German-speaking people to organize and maintain their military resources. We tried in 1919 and failed. The attempt produced Hitler and a renewal of the war. It was the outcome of the cry for security which war always provokes. . . .

We can do nothing permanent to disable Germany militarily unless we are willing to accept it reciprocally for ourselves.

★

WHEN we capture a German soldier after wounding him we have to nurse him back to health exactly as we nurse and cure an Allied soldier. Otherwise, all prisoners of war, wounded or not, would be killed.

Having smashed the German cities with our bombs, we shall have to help to rebuild them for our own sakes. Formerly when we took a city we had it for our pains. Now we have only an artificial Pompeii.

Which means, happily, that war has reduced itself to absurdity, as we shall perhaps realize in another century or so.

★

NAZI is short for National Socialism and not for every bee in Fuehrer Hitler's bonnet. Without a good deal of National Socialism and Communism no modern State could exist for a week.

There is no such distinction as you imply between Nazi principles and Allied principles: we are all National Socialists nowadays, more or less.

As to criminal acts, such terms do not apply to war operations. However high-minded, patriotic, heroic, and philanthropic the motives of war may be, its facts and acts are villainous and suicidally anti-civilized.

Death of Maurice Rountree

IT is with great regret that we report the death last week-end of Maurice L. Rountree, the Hon. Treasurer and a Sponsor of the Peace Pledge Union, at the age of 62.

He was found dead on Sunday morning at the foot of a stairway at Spicelands Training Centre, Devonshire, where the PPU Summer School had opened on the previous day. He had accidentally fallen down the stairs, fracturing his skull.

At the inquest on Tuesday a verdict of "death by misadventure" was returned.

The funeral was held at Spicelands Friends' Meeting House yesterday (Thursday) evening.

The death of Maurice Rountree is an irreparable loss to the PPU, and the sympathy of its members goes out to his family.

Already well known as a Quaker and pacifist, Maurice Rountree played an active and leading part in the PPU from its earliest days, his open sincerity, friendliness, and readiness to help others endearing him to all with whom he worked.

A memorial meeting will be held at Friends House, Euston Rd., London, N.W.1, at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday next (Aug. 29).

It was decided to continue this week's PPU Summer School, at which he was to have been one of the lecturers.

Tributes will appear in next week's Peace News.

★

The following appeal for the PPU Headquarters Fund was written by Maurice Rountree, as Hon. Treasurer, shortly before his death. We are sure he would still have wished it to be published, and that readers



will feel that in responding to it they will be honouring his memory in the very practical way of helping forward the cause to which he devoted so much of his time and energy.

A SUBSCRIBER to Peace News who has now decided to join the PPU sends us a cheque for the interest on National Savings Certificates from which she no longer wishes to benefit.

She feels that the Union does "stand for a positive, constructive way of life" in contrast to "the unashamed glorying in the terrible air attack in Caen that finally decided me that I could not possibly support war any longer, and must do what I can to prevent its recurrence."

Our thanks go to this subscriber and to all those others who are helping to strengthen the PPU for its job. Contributions to Headquarters Fund since Aug. 11: £21 9s. 10d. Total to date: £222 4s. 1d.

Donations to the Fund, which should be marked "Headquarters Fund," will be gratefully received at Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1.

PEACE NEWS

3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4

Stamford Hill 2262

All letters on other than editorial matters should be addressed to the Manager

THE LIMIT

"ARMY doctors," says the Daily Mail, "have made some striking discoveries about the psychological factors which lead to brave men breaking down in battle." There followed extracts from *The Lancet*, giving the findings of doctors who have studied soldier-patients sent back from France to an Army neurosis centre. Fear was a frequent cause of breakdown, but the doctors declared:

"Within two days most men became calm and equable and wanted to rejoin their comrades in France."

Facts which reveal that for soldiers to break down under stress of war is by no means uncommon come from USA, where the lifting of War Department censorship has permitted the publication of experts' reports. Two officers told the 100th meeting of the American Psychiatric Society in May:

"... The rate of crack-ups in the Army as a whole is about 20 times greater than in civilian life—even after Selective Service has weeded out 12 per cent. of registrants for psychiatric reasons... In combat zones the rate of crack-ups goes up in direct proportion to the time spent under combat conditions." The officers added that from 50 to 80 per cent. of the casualties can be restored to "full military duty."

Assurances of the temporary nature of many of these break-downs should be seen in their true perspective. Naturally, military authorities are concerned with restoring mentally sick men to a condition in which they can resume their duties. They need not consider the long-term effects on the minds of the sufferers. (After all, in ten or twenty years' time further classes will be available for call-up if required.) But the lesson is plain. Even in "peace", life in Western civilization is not conducive to peace of mind. A twenty-fold increase in mental casualties among its combatants signifies that modern war is becoming, quite literally, unbearable for modern man.

Yet there is hope. Not only have we not yet reached the limit of the humanly bearable, but other facts given to the Society suggest that psychiatry has gone beyond the limit of science into the realm of what some would call the miraculous. The miracle is none other than a cure for conscience. Two officers reported on the "guilt complex" suffered by American airmen. This form of neurosis, said one,

"is universal, not only in men who have been removed from combat because of anxiety states, but also in those who have honourably completed their tour of duty."

A typical case was a turret gunner with a strong aversion to killing anything who developed hysterical paralysis of his right hand.

The miracle is worked by an injection of a relaxing drug which releases tension and enables the psychiatrist to draw out "the terrors buried deep in the patient's sub-conscious mind." This, it is claimed, purges his memories of the feeling of guilt and often the patient returns to operations. If this mind cure for soul-sickness proves permanent we must jettison our old-fashioned ideas and prepare to hail the Brave New World. For after this war none need suffer, as the more sensitive suffered last time, the awful realization that war has become a way of killing a man's essential manhood, rather than of proving it. And if the cure for conscience is not matched by a lasting cure for that other cause of breakdowns, ordinary human fear—why then, have we not in robot-weapons another timely miracle on the way? In the next war their operators can go underground, away from ghastly sights and out of harm's way.

So far we have seen no reports that civilians have been psychiatized (forgive the word) into brave citizens of the Brave New World. Perhaps there won't be room for civilians in the BNW. Or perhaps a watchful Providence, which implanted the sense of guilt for some purpose, fears lest the psychiatrists become too expert in exorcising it—and has seen to it that some folk, at least, are left with a capacity for sensitivity so that, in time, they might come to know what they do, and stop doing it.

"Inside it's killed something"

This passage from a letter recently received from a US soldier was reprinted in the July issue of *The Conscientious Objector*, New York:

"WELL, I guess it's about time I wrote again. Things are really popping around here now. Yesterday 3,000 were called for overseas duty. I missed this list, on account of my legs I guess. But I expect to be in the next. I haven't said too much about it at home, but between you and me it won't be long now. We are all anxious to get over there, which is only natural since they have made professional killers out of us."

I have a confession to make which I would like your advice on. The army has made a man out of me physically, but inside it's killed something. After learning how to kill for six days a week I can't enter a church with my head up and a clear conscience. I have no choice in the matter, so I don't go any more.

When this is all over, I'll return and spend the rest of my life asking forgiveness for the killings I might be forced to do soon. There is one thing I can't do, and that is to be two-faced with my God, so when I can walk in a church with a clear mind, what I have lost will have returned.

(SEE LEADING ARTICLE, COL. 1)

A pioneer of socialism with a lesson for pacifists today

by FRANK DAWTRY

EDWARD Carpenter, best known for his work "Towards Democracy" but whose interests and writing covered many fields of progressive thought and reform, was born just a hundred years ago, on Aug. 29, 1844. He died in 1929.

He was never declared a pacifist, but his conception of the ideal life of men and women in harmony with each other and together in harmony with nature and the universe, is one surely shared as the basis of their conviction by all pacifists.

But at the beginning of the 1914 war he for a short time hoped it was the culminating point in man's struggle to be free, for he thought that both German and British imperialism would disappear in the war and that

"perhaps the madness and the blind passion, the loosening of the torrents of hate and revenge and of all the pent-up waters of ignorance and prejudice, are, after all, better than the dreary stagnation of the cheap and nasty. The whole commercial period has bred both in men and goods a lamentable commonplaceness and cheapness—a low level and a paltry standard of human values. Perhaps even the madness of war is better than that."

POMP AND FOLLY

In that thought he was driven by his hatred of modern civilization with its denial of life to the masses. He was soon to see the failure of his hope of its amendment by war, and by 1916 he had seen through the propaganda, and was a staunch opponent of conscription and supporter of the conscientious objectors.

"Towards Democracy" has in it the basis of all war resistance, and it

contains many attacks on imperialism and a trenchant comment on our ignorance regarding India and Ireland. In it he wrote of the pomp and folly of his age, pleading that men should see through the sham democracy to achieve a real unity amongst themselves.

Carpenter did not however regard the falsity of civilization merely as a denial of material rights to the dispossessed; he regretted even more the wrong standards of life it upheld, which distracted the thought and efforts of the workers into a mere (and useless) competition for wealth and position.

"All the nonsense about riches, fame, distinction, ease, luxury and so forth," he wrote, "how little does it amount to! It really is not worth wasting time over. These things are so obviously second-hand affairs."

He knew that the real satisfactions of life were not in such superficial things, and a story is told of the first visit of Tagore to England, when Carpenter called on him and asked him what had most impressed him here. He replied, pointing into the street, "That! All these people in the street hurrying about, looking for something they are carrying about with them." Carpenter shared that view; the salvation of the people lay within themselves.

PRACTICAL SIDE

But Carpenter was however no woolly idealist. He realized that as man aspired to the ideal, there was need also for practical and educational work to be done. While he could write

"When I see the sea, spreading, of infidelity, of belief in externals, in money, big guns, laws, views, accomplishments, cheap goods, town councillors, Cabinet Ministers, MPs, generals, judges, bishops, all alike... I choke!"

he tried himself to achieve his ideal in his own affairs in simple and harmonious living, close to the soil, and with it the lecturing and writing by which he hoped to spread light and thought. And he did not despise the slow careful efforts of the small groups:

"It is curious to see how, of all the innumerable little societies, all supporting the general socialist conception, not one of them has grown to any great volume or to commanding and permanent influence, and yet, at the same time, the general teaching and ideals of the movement have permeated society in the most remarkable way and have deeply infected the views of all classes as well as general literature and even municipal and imperial politics."

He saw the real value of the socialist movement in the fact that it "has enshrined a most glowing and vital enthusiasm towards the realization of a new society."

The later development of the socialist movement might have disappointed him, but we may ponder his words. If we can so order our own movement that, with the substitution of "pacifist" for Edward Carpenter's "socialist" we can turn those hopes into reality—and I believe we can and are doing so—then we can see the true value and hope of the PPU. In it we should seek harmony together and where there is harmony, there is the beginning of peace.

LETTERS

The transformation of machine-society

I find L. V. Pike's letter (Aug. 4) airy and unreal. It offers no anchorage or leverage that I can discover. He infers that the technique of the small workshop will carry only a population of from 4 to 7 millions. In heaven's name why? It is now demonstrable that we can easily feed from our own land a population of between 30 and 40 millions, not more than a quarter of whom would belong to families wholly connected with the land, although one would hope that a much larger number would desire to work on the land part-time.

Given industrial decentralization under some form of guild or co-operative control, and the transference of directive power and responsibility from the combines to the workers, the latter would be able to decide all along the line whether they would prefer fewer material things, but of distinction and high quality, with labour in which they could express and delight their souls, or a multiplicity of cheap, characterless things, very many of which had been imposed on society by profit-seekers to its unhappiness and undoing.

Today society is the victim of conventions which consume an enormous amount of time, labour and money, and result in unnatural and often unhealthy habits and conditions. How far such changes would in fact go would be determined by the human soul as it passed out of its present bondage into true freedom. For over a century science and invention have been the servants of cheapness in the interests of a big export trade. May they not, with equal facility and success become the servants of craft and a qualitative civilization, the supreme aim of which is the maximum development of human personality?

What Mr. Pike asks for in the latter part of his letter is precisely what I have been trying to do. How he would apply his formula remains a mystery. However, I submit that unless he can formulate a policy whereby the path to a qualitative civilization can be indicated and entered upon now, it will be useless, since the machine is at this moment driving us more rapidly than we dream into an era of complete totalitarianism, of chaos and revolution in which power will be the aim of every faction—that Frankenstein monster, State-power—the root of which is the productive power of the machine.

WILFRED WELLOCK

12 Victoria Ave., Quinton, Birmingham, 32.

Esperanto Institute

I should be glad to hear from readers who would support the formation of a National Esperanto Institute.

The Institute would aim to work on a large scale, and to strengthen the existing Esperanto societies. The latter, at present, lack the energy and inspiration to achieve grand results, and greatly underestimate the support the public would give to an ambitious scheme.

I suggest a membership sub. of 6s. per annum, or 12s. including a correspondence course.

I am willing to act as Hon. Organizer.

W. J. BRIDGEN

125 Drakefield Rd., London, S.W.17.

Civil liberty

I should like to ask the National Council for Civil Liberties—after reading (PN, Aug. 4) that it did not see its way to campaign on behalf of someone who had admittedly broken the law (G. Elphick): What campaigning did it do for those who were put away under 18B without trial, and also how it felt with regard to their being put away again after they had been released through ill health? These people—I know a good number—did not break any law, but I have not read of any campaign for them ever being made by NCCL.

B. V. WRAGG

46 Rugby Ave., Sudbury.

Victory and peace

This seems to be a suitable moment to remind the public—and the Government—of the words of Captain Liddell Hart, written in 1940:

"We must remember that a long war tends to a bad peace... You may call me a defeatist, as some do, but I still insist that victory has less to offer than an indecisive war which ends with an agreed peace. The idea of complete and overwhelming victory is the greatest folly on earth; such victories only lead to bankruptcy, moral as well as economic... It is essential to conduct war with constant regard to the peace you desire. As I emphasized in 'The Defence of Britain', if you concentrate exclusively on victory, with no thought of its after-effects, you may be too exhausted to profit by the peace, while it is almost certain that the peace will be a bad one, containing the germs of another war. This is a lesson supported by abundance of experience."

DALLAS KENMARE

Lynhurst Hill, Barnt Green, Wors.

Cyril Simmons

It may be of interest that, as a member of the first rescue-squad arriving at the incident, I attended Cyril Simmons, whose death was recorded in Peace News, Aug. 4.

I found him lying near the front door of his wrecked house with severe wounds to the back of his head. I dressed his head and lifted him on to a stretcher, but his case was plainly hopeless and he died very shortly after. I myself am a CO who has been serving in the CD Services in Simmons' district for the past three years, but I did not know him personally, and only realized who he was when I read PN.

PETER RECORD

2 Chalcroft Rd., S.E.13.

Cyclist's Pennant

I was interested to read B. A. S. Brunskill's letter in PN dated Aug. 4 re small flag made up of tie material. I have a pennant made for me by my wife out of an old tie. This has been flying on my cycle for the past two years.

N. CARTER

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NEGOTIATED PEACE WEEK

"Convinced that:

(1) Both totalitarianism, in any form, and capitalist imperialism are incompatible with the freedoms for which it is claimed the war is being waged;

(2) True political and economic democracy is the only system of society by which these freedoms can be attained;

(3) They cannot be had by dictation after victory but only through mutual agreement and understanding,

we . . . realizing the danger of continuing the war to unconditional surrender and a dictated peace, urge that an attempt should be made forthwith to obtain a just settlement for all peoples by an agreed peace on the above basis."

THE above resolution is a form of words which may be of service to the organizers of the many meetings which will take place next week. Whether this or some other form is used, we hope that members of the Government, the local MP and the Press will be informed of meetings and the mind of those attending. We are also expecting that all those who believe that only by negotiation can any foundation be laid upon which peace can be built will write at least one letter on the matter.

Letters received by members of the Government will do much to direct their attention to some other ending of the war than that of unconditional surrender. This policy of holding out no hope to the German people even should they replace the Nazi system by a democratic one is prolonging the war and causing useless slaughter. "Never by anything the Churches did or said was the peace brought nearer by one hour," said Lloyd George after the first world war. Those words apply with greater force today.

MORRISON'S MOVE

Herbert Morrison already knows of the campaign. He has banned our Trafalgar Square demonstration. I expect that Tom Johnston also knows, seeing that the police have made an attempt to stop the open-air meeting which has been held regularly each week in Glasgow for the past 3 months. These are only two places so far reported where there has been any attempt to curtail our activities.

This is your week. Will you let the Government, Parliament, and the Press know where you stand by supporting the demonstration which will be held in Hyde Park on Sept. 3, the other meetings in the provinces, and by your letters?

The Allies have during these last days opened up the fourth front. There will I have no doubt be ques-

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER!

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS
Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., W.C.1

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When corresponding with PN about an advertisement, quote its first words, classification, and date.

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DERBYSHIRE HILLS. Food Reform Vegetarian Guest House for happy holidays or restful recuperation; all modern comforts. A and K. S. Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, Matlock. (Station: Ambergate; Tel. Ambergate 44.)

PEACEFUL HOLIDAY accommodation required early Sept. for lady and two boys. Sea if possible. Simple, homely life appreciated. Mrs. Whitehead, Forstal Farm, Tenterden, Kent.

tions in the mind of some who will read this column.

At what point in the seeming march to victory will campaigning for negotiation have lost its meaning? Shall we not soon see the ending of the war in victory and unconditional surrender? Will you not look rather foolish campaigning under such circumstances? Have you considered at what point this form of activity should cease?

THE NEED REMAINS

To those who may be forming such questions in their mind I would answer by asking them another. If you are advocating negotiation, a reconciliation arrived at by agreement, at what point do you consider that that method should be abandoned?

We, with you, do not believe that victory, unconditional surrender and a dictated treaty can give peace. The need for advocating a negotiated peace will continue until we have an agreed peace. A peace which is not only just, fair and reasonable, but recognized by the peoples of Europe to be such. To campaign for such a peace will be our business until it is obtained.

We shall all give a deep sigh of relief when the "cease fire" sounds, but unless there is an agreed peace the formidable, and for the most part hidden, forces leading to "World War 3" will be there, giving no respite to our campaigning. It will call for all our time to be energetically and wisely spent in advocating agreement. In fact the campaign for a negotiated peace, a peace of agreement and reconciliation, never ceases until that kind of peace is attained.

Having peered into the future let us come down to the only time that is ours, the present. Do not fail the future by holding back from doing all you possibly can during the present week.

HARRY HILDITCH.

Cities that need liberation — from hunger

THE relief of Paris is becoming one of the most urgent and dramatic aspects of the war," declared The Times (Aug. 15). Its correspondent at Bayeux heard the tragic cry, "Vite, vite! Ils ont faim" on the Caen road from a group of people who had "just walked from Paris" and all stories from the people who had left the French capital "give the same distressing picture of hollow-cheeked citizens standing in endless queues for their dwindling rations."

The Vichy Food Minister has broadcast an appeal (Manchester Guardian, Aug. 17) urging that "everyone must do his utmost to avoid famine and riots in Paris."

The position in liberated Florence is still grave.

"I asked several women in the poorer quarters what they had been able to give their families to eat. One had a little stock of rice and peas, which she was doing out in smaller quantities every day. She had obtained no bread. Another had had a small bread ration twice within eight days, and a few dried vegetables. Each family has to spend three to four hours daily standing in queues to get enough water for drinking and cooking," (Times, Aug. 15.)

But although the situation was said to be improving the same newspaper reported two days later that "Between the German lines and the allied-controlled sector north of the river is an area with several thousand

Pacifist may leave the Ministry

THE pacifist vicar of Ewell, the Rev. C. G. Holland, hints in a farewell letter to his parishioners after resigning the living that he may leave the ministry altogether.

"Feeling as I do," he writes, "I can no longer exercise my ministry or represent in an official capacity a Church which, I am convinced, has betrayed her Master." His letter also declares:

" . . . I want my last written words to you to be a reaffirmation of my faith as a convinced and unashamed pacifist.

"I consider war to be . . . so opposed to the whole essence of Christianity that I find it impossible to understand how the Church, professing to worship One who refused to meet evil by evil, can support the mass-murder of our fellow men and women and the total destruction of the means of life involved by modern war."

"I believe that in supporting this war, which demands the callous and cold-blooded slaughter and starvation of whole populations on the grounds of 'military expediency,' the Church has lost any claim she may once have had to represent the Prince of Peace, or to interpret the Will of God, who is Love."

Mr. Holland may take up work in connexion with educational films for children. He has written many successful boys' books. Earlier in life he served before the mast for a time, rounding Cape Horn in a windjammer.

inhabitants who are unable to get food."

* * *

The Famine Relief Committee recently announced "A further slight increase in relief supplies from America" to Greece "bringing the monthly total to about 34,500 tons." The Food Relief Campaign (PPU) learns from the Ministry of Economic Warfare that this information is unfortunately incorrect.

"The figure of 32,000 tons a month . . . is correct" says the Ministry. It varies "from month to month (the average remaining constant) being higher in some months and lower in others." It is therefore possible that a single month's shipments were as high as 34,500 tons—but there has been no overall increase in the monthly shipments.

REDOUBLE WORK NOW

General Eisenhower's warning (Aug. 15) that the European war will not be over in a matter of weeks almost certainly means that most of the people in the cities of some of the occupied countries will suffer further privation this winter, unless controlled relief reaches them.

The Food Relief Campaign appeals to all supporters to redouble their efforts. Work deferred until the late autumn will be too late to have any real effect upon the problem this winter.

LITERATURE, etc.

QUAKERISM. Information and literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London, N.W.1.

40,000 SECOND-HAND books on theology, Bible study, liturgy, mysticism, pacifism, psychology, sociology, politics, gardening etc. Monthly list 2d., allowed for on return. Profits help Franciscan community. Kingdom Books, 51 West Cromwell Rd., London, S.W.5.

MEETINGS. ~

NORTH LONDON Region. Sat., Aug. 26, Social, Edmonton Independent Church from 6.30 p.m. Sun., Aug. 27, Breakfast, followed by Ramble to Bayford, meeting at Enfield Chs at 10.40 a.m. prompt.

INSTITUTE, POUND Rd., Warley, nr. Birmingham. Richard Lee, M.A. (Coventry). "Peace by Negotiation" 3 p.m. Sun., Aug. 27.

ROMFORD P.P.U. Friends' Meeting House, 171 Victoria Rd.—Tue., Sept. 5, 7.30 p.m.—"The Colour Bar," by John Carter, Barrister (Brit. Guiana). Photo, Freemount, Bacton, Hereford.

ASSISTANT MASTER required by small prep. school (established 1878) in South Coast town. Small class, congenial atmosphere, good holidays. Apply fully stating salary required. Box 565.

50% OF PROFITS plus agricultural wage offered married man to run established marketgarden. Experience essential. Accommodation for wife available. Write: "Clarendon," Hatfield Heath, Bishops Stortford.

SEED FIRM requires selling representatives on commission basis. Contacts with growers an advantage. Post-war prospects. Write Box 576.

AREA ORGANIZER required by P.P.U. for work in North of England. Full details from "Development Secretary," Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., London, W.C.1.

COMFORTABLE SITUATION for capable woman in farm-house, farmer and wife, partial invalid, boy 14 at home during holidays, no outside work except a few poultry. Child school age not objected to. Apply Brynabur Farm, Llanrhaidr, Oswestry, Salop, or Box 578.

WANTED — PARTNERS with capital to help start school or hostel. Anyone interested? Box 577.

WOMAN STUDENT offers domestic services in exchange for room. Bristol or near. Box 584.

SITUATIONS VACANT

It is impossible to confirm satisfactory conditions of employment in all posts advertised in Peace News. Applicants who are in any doubt are recommended to consult the Pacific Service Bureau, 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1, which will often be able to give useful advice.

SMALL, PROGRESSIVE, "pioneer" co-ed. school needs responsible, practical people to share communal life with young staff. Teacher (English, History or Gen. Science), House-mother (ability with lively children). Photo, Freemount, Bacton, Hereford.

ASSISTANT MASTER required by small prep. school (established 1878) in South Coast town. Small class, congenial atmosphere, good holidays. Apply fully stating salary required. Box 565.

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NATURE-CURE TREATMENT of disease (including eyes). Reginald J. Bailey, M.S.F., N.C.P., Osteopath and Naturopath, 134 Hoppers Rd., Winchmore Hill, N.21. (Ex-Maidstone C.O.) Consultations by appointment. Postal advice given. Palmers Green 7868.

Do you know a newsagent who will sell Peace News—and perhaps display it as well? If so, write to PN, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4.

August 25, 1944, PEACE NEWS—3

INTERNATIONAL TUNE OF THE WAR

A HALF-HOUR trifle is perhaps the most revealing documentary film of the year. It is the story of "Lili Marlene," the tune adopted by nostalgic conscripts on both sides of the battle-line.

This little song, very much in the German popular-music tradition, had an uneventful career from the Hamburg dockland to Berlin until a record of it was broadcast (by the merest chance) from Radio Belgrade, when the Nazis began transmissions. Then it clicked. Its mood of sentimental homesickness, the old story of the girl waiting in the lamp-light, responded to something deep and universal in the fighting men.

Rommel's men abandoned their martial "Die Panzer fahren nach Afrika" in its favour; the Smolensk road "Lili Marlene" statues were erected. And men of the Eighth Army, listening, so Denis Johnstone of the BBC says, to the German "Forces Programme," picked up the tune. Later, they took prisoners who passed it on to more of their captors. The Eighth Army made it their own, and when they moved to Sicily and Italy found the peasants singing an Italian version of it.

The "Eighth's" is a soldier's translation—not given in the film. But it is, on any count, a purer version than that adapted by the BBC for its "anti-Nazi" purpose, a ballad perverted to hate-propaganda and sung at the Germans. Now the English version has been polished up and has come back to Europe as the international tune of the war, innocent of any warlike sentiments.

The fate of "Lili Marlene" is, indeed, symbolic: between battles the fighting men are enough alike in taste and culture to exchange songs. And the propaganda machine exploits the bond to make good any falling off in hatred. It is apt that a neutral Swede, Lili Andersen, should give this tune to the warriors, and it is perhaps a sign of grace that Mr. Humphrey Jennings should choose to make a film around it at such a time. The moral he seeks to draw is strangely, tortuously irrelevant—perhaps a concession to MoI sponsorship. But audiences will surely feel something of the devilry that tears through a natural European unity—and makes us marvel when the forces themselves restore it for a while above the turmoil.

H.W.

U.S. BAN ON OVERSEAS RELIEF WORK

Although General Joseph Stillwell and the Chinese Ambassador to the US are among those who have asked for American CO units to be sent to China, the possibility that objectors would be permitted to undertake relief work overseas has not materialized.

Despite the electoral defeat of Senator Joe Starnes who, as we reported a fortnight ago, attached a rider to the War Department's Appropriation Bill last year to keep COs out of such work, the amendment itself has been renewed for another year by the US House of Representatives. The Washington Post called the rider "a vindictive provision."

ADVISORY BUREAUX

Bury (Lancs): Reginald Manning now 100 Walshaw Rd., Bury.

Add. Perth: individual adviser, Rev. H. Erskine Fraser, Bridgend Manse, Perth (Perth 450).

Rutherglen: Sec. now Archibald Smith, 31 Victoria St., Rutherglen.

Stirling: individual adviser now F. A. Crockett, 17 Riverside Drive, Stirling.

SITUATIONS AND WORK WANTED

ACCOUNTANT, EX-SCRUBS C.O., prepares all forms of accounts. Income Tax returns, audits etc. Box 539.

REFUGEE WITH daughter aged 4½ seeks position in children's hostel or girls' school. Hospital trained in general nursing, also trained in welfare work and handicrafts. Box 579.

YOUNG LADY, 17, School Certificate, able to type, Christian pacifist and humanitarian, desires congenial position. Manchester district. Box 580.

URGENTLY WANTED—any kind of driving or agricultural work (3 yrs. varied exp.) by exempt married C.O. (28). Preferably where intelligent interest encouraged. Interested community. Box 581.

MISCELLANEOUS

INSTITUTE PSYCHOLOGY, Kensington. Lectures every Tuesday, 7 p.m. Philosophy, genuine social introductions. Consultations all problems. Western 8935.

NATURE-CURE TREATMENT of disease (including eyes). Reginald J. Bailey, M.S.F., N.C.P., Osteopath and Naturopath, 134 Hoppers Rd., Winchmore Hill, N.21. (Ex-Maidstone C.O.) Consultations by appointment. Postal advice given. Palmers Green 7868.

“Anarchist” on leaflets charge SENT FOR TRIAL

THOMAS William Brown, aged 24, of Teddington, described by the prosecution as an anarchist, was at Bow St. Police Court on Friday last committed to the Central Criminal Court on a charge of:

having endeavoured between March 1 and July 26 to seduce from their duty persons in his Majesty's service, or to cause among such persons disaffection likely to lead to breaches of their duty, endeavoured to incite persons liable under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act to be called up for service, to evade any duties and liabilities which they were or might become liable to perform, and endeavoured to prejudice the training discipline or administration of his Majesty's Forces or civil defence organization.

He was also charged with possessing documents of such a nature that their dissemination would constitute a contravention of the regulations.

The accused, said to be a laboratory assistant, was alleged to have thrown a leaflet from a railway carriage window into the lap of a Mrs. Vincent, sitting in an adjacent stationary train. Mrs. Vincent was in uniform.

Mr. H. A. K. Morgan, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said there was “no doubt whatever” that the wording of the leaflet “clearly justifies the present charges, and might also justify a charge of sabotage.”

“I shall not read it,” added Mr. Morgan, “because it would only give publicity to its mischievous views.”

“The first part, intended to play on the feelings of the bombed, is particularly pernicious.”

The finding of other similar leaflets was described in the course of evidence.

The accused reserved his defence. Bail was refused.

ANOTHER PRISON STRIKE

Another prison strike by American COs is reported in The Conscientious Objector of New York (July issue).

Three objectors began a strike in the Federal Reformatory at Petersburg against prison conditions, treatment of prisoners, and racial segregation. The men have been separated—one losing privileges and being ordered to stay in his dormitory, the others being put in solitary confinement.

COMMENTARY (contd from p. 1)

economic crisis, for which we were so unprepared, opened the flood-gates of the Nazi revolution.” (Sir Walter Layton, News Chronicle, Aug. 21.)

We have the power. Have we the vision?

Mine - leaders' manoeuvres

SOME odd manoeuvring is being carried out by the Mineworkers' Federation. When a delegate conference of the Federation assembled at Nottingham to work out the details of the “one big union covering every worker in all the coal-fields” which is planned to come into existence by the end of this year, there was no opposition to the main project. Yet the General Secretary, Mr. Ebby Edwards, was missing. The News Chronicle, Aug. 17, says:

“The delegates were dumbfounded to find he was not there, and even the President, Mr. Will Lawther, was surprised to find the chair next to him unoccupied.”

On the same day an “important amendment from South Wales”—of which Mr. Edwards would surely have known—was adopted: it “lays down as the fundamental object of the new organization the establishment of a national wages agreement.” Meanwhile, Mr. Edwards is in America, where he is consulting with John L. Lewis of the United Mine-Workers—an industrial, not a political organization, and the most disciplined group of workers in the USA.

And this is the moment when the UMW Journal in America launches a violent attack on the British mining industry, incriminating miners as well as owners in a conspiracy to prevent modernization of the industry. This is said to be based on the report of the American Coal Commission which recently visited this country. British miners, says the UMW

FREE SPEECH THREATENED IN GLASGOW

Police warn peace campaigners

From our own correspondent

WHEN speakers from the United Peace Campaign arrived at the usual pitch for their Glasgow open-air meetings on Aug. 13, two policemen who were already present informed them: “There will be no meeting here tonight.” They alleged complaints of obstruction.

When challenged, the police failed to provide evidence to support the allegation. They repeated that they had instructions to inform the UPC not to hold the meeting and said that, if the latter insisted, the “responsibility” lay with the speakers.

It was decided to proceed with the meeting. Alfred Opie stepped on to the platform and addressed the audience of 200 or more which had already formed. He explained in detail all that had occurred. He pointed out that two streets had already been banned for meetings in recent weeks, for similar “reasons”; that there was a suspicion that the authorities were attempting to prohibit political and particularly anti-war meetings in such an area. (The pitch—street corners adjoining Sauchiehall Street, is a very prominent one.)

A vote of confidence was taken—first for the police. Not one hand was raised. There were but few abstentions when he asked for a show of hands in support of the United Peace Campaign. Free speech won the day by majority vote. A collection was taken in order to pay fines should the speakers be arrested. It was the largest yet taken by the UPC.

THREAT TO FREE SPEECH

The second speaker, Alex Smith, reminded the audience of his statement a few weeks previously that if “Peace Corner” meetings became popular the police would probably interfere and arrests might be made.

“This,” he said, “is more than an attack on the United Peace Campaign meetings, it is a direct threat to the right of free speech.”

No arrests were made that night. The police patrolled the street corner but took no further action.

Interest in the campaign is rising. The police again threatened to make arrests at last Sunday's meeting, but the audience of about 250 demonstrated by a vote their opposition to any police action.

The formation of a committee to fight the free speech issue is imminent, with the Scottish Socialist Party and other organizations in support.

Preparations are carefully being made for an intense propaganda campaign during Negotiated Peace Week.

Open-air meetings will be held at Rose Street (off Sauchiehall St.) each evening. A final indoor meeting will be well advertised in the sympathetic Press and by means of handbills and posters. Sybil Morrison, Alfred Opie and Sir Hugh Robertson (president of the UPC) will speak at this meeting.

LABOUR AND THE PEACE SETTLEMENT

An effort to restore the traditional policy of the Labour Party in international affairs is made by the Parliamentary Peace Aims Group—Labour members of the Lords and Commons—in a new pamphlet entitled “Labour and the Post-War Settlement.”

The Political Correspondent of the News Chronicle said on Aug. 19 that he understood that the Labour Party executive would reserve its reply to the pamphlet for the postponed annual conference.

The pamphlet falls into two parts: a repudiation of the report issued by the Party's National Executive setting forth its policy on the post-war settlement, and an analysis of that report with comment upon specific points in it.

“Labour and the Post-War Settlement” costs 6d. or 7d. post free, from Parliamentary Peace Aims Group, 32 Victoria St., London, S.W.1.

C.O.s' OFFER REFUSED

Repeated offers by some of the COs in New Zealand detention camps to perform work of a civilian nature in the community, rather than waste their time and effort on what they regard as useless, or comparatively useless, work in the camps, have been declined.

MINERS' UNITED FRONT?

Journal, “have been victimized as a servile unit of the British Labour Party” and the miners' MPs fear reform because they think it would open the door to national wage agreements.

Nor could Mr. Edwards' mission in America have been facilitated by the stormy reply of his President next day. “It ill becomes an avowed Isolationist like Mr. Lewis,” said Mr. Lawther, “to intrude in our domestic affairs.”

Vested interests

IT is, at the best, rank bad staff-work to have Anglo-USA miners' negotiations and a slanging match simultaneously. What Mr. Edwards hoped to bring back from America we cannot tell. But Mr. Arthur Horner, who is President of the S. Wales Miners, in welcoming the projected National Union of Miners, says (D. Herald, Aug. 21):

“The decision demonstrated that the miners' officials have in the main been capable of setting on one side all sorts of personal or vested interests.”

A unified organization, of course, is as useful for strictly industrial as for political pressure. It is hard to resist the impression that some influential miners leaders are too prudent to put all their eggs in the Labour Party-TUC basket; that they are doubtful enough of the prospects of a nationalized coal industry, as demanded in the TUC plan now under discussion (Daily Telegraph, Aug. 21) to seek a primarily industrial international. A united front of over a million miners, equally divided on each side of the Atlantic, would be a powerful new line in “functional co-operation.” But the consumer, as ever, would be left out

in the cold—and peace in the coal-fields might be as far off as ever.

Christianity and exports

YOU might imagine I have taken this from a speech by (say) a Bishop:

“We need a strong moral and Christian background to all our policies, insisting upon that equality of opportunity and selflessness which are the keynote of our Christian faith.”

You would be wrong. The speaker, a member of the Government, went on (according to The Times report, Aug. 19) to say that

“Unless we could get back all our pre-war export trade and add something like another 50 per cent. pretty quickly after the war we should be unable to maintain pre-war standards” (of living).

The speaker? Sir Stafford Cripps—who, I thought, had a keen enough mind to see that a drive for exports in the world as it will be after the war will have little connexion with Christian selflessness.

De - coded

“The Codes of Practice Committee has been formed under the aegis of the Ministry of Works to formulate codes of good practice for post-war constructional work.”—News-item.

“The time has come to turn aspirations into specific articles of a Code of Retribution.” (Daily Mail leader, July 17.)

THESE two quotations have inspired a correspondent to comment in verse:

Our Office of Works is directing its Codes
In the main to the practice of good.
Construction at least is the nominal aim
Which we gladly subscribe to (or should).
But witness the clamour now raised in the

Press

For a Code for the Practice of evil:
We are asked to aspire to a Code of Revenge
By the office of works of the Devil.

“Argus”

“Observer,” the usual writer of this feature, is on holiday.

THE DOCTOR AND THE TEACHER

A NATIVE teacher in the Gilbert Islands was taken prisoner by a Japanese commander who interrogated him and, finding that he could not understand the teacher's language, decided to put him to death the following day, as the teacher belonged to the Allied cause.

As the minutes ticked by, prayers that the teacher's life might be saved were offered by the natives.

The following morning a Japanese ship arrived. Among the crew was a Japanese doctor who, on finding that the teacher's life was to be taken, said he would not stand for this.

The Japanese commander said that the doctor must also be on the side of the Allies.

“No,” the doctor replied, “but if you put him to death you put me to death too.”

The commander raved, but the teacher was released.

The doctor was the son of a Japanese missionary, said the Rev. A. W. Sylvester, who told this story in an address reported in the Wellington (New Zealand) Evening Post recently.

FORUM TO STUDY PLANNING

Those who read Mrs. Irene Barclay's recent Peace News Pamphlet, “Prelude to Planning,” may be interested to learn that the Town and Country Planning Association has recently inaugurated a junior group to be known as The Planning Forum, with the following aims:

1. To acquire knowledge in all aspects of town and country planning, in relation to the immediate and long-term post-war periods, with a view to contributing to the creation of informed public opinion in these matters, particularly among young men and women.
2. With this objective, to hold lectures, discussions, film shows, conferences and the like.
3. To encourage individual members or groups of members to study specific technical, sociological or other aspects of planning, with a view to the preparation of papers or reports.
4. To assist the Association in the formation of similar discussion groups.
5. To form a panel of speakers qualified to address outside bodies, and in particular, youth organizations of all kinds, on town and country planning.
6. To encourage the establishment of kindred groups in other countries, or to make contact with these where already existing, for the purpose of exchanging information, and arranging visits, conferences, and the like in the post-war period.

Individuals or groups interested in the activities of the Planning Forum are asked to write to the Hon. Secretary: Miss L. M. Osborn, 43 Store Street, London, W.C.1.

ASTHMA

and Catarrh sufferers should send stamp for particulars of Greatest Remedy known to Medical Science. British Medica Laboratories, Ltd. Desk G Heathcote Rd., Boscombe, Hants.

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